

## **The Little Red House With No Doors and No Windows and a Star Inside**

Once upon a time, there was a little boy named \_\_\_\_\_ (fill in the name) who was looking for something to do. "What shall I do?" he asked his mother. His mother, who was busy doing household chores said, "How about going on a adventure to find a little red house with no doors and no windows and a star inside." This really made the little boy curious. "Which way should I go?" he asked his mother. "I don't know where to find such a house." His mother pointed and said, "Go down the hill past the farmhouse and then hurry back as soon as you can to tell me all about your journey."

So the little boy put on his cap and his jacket and started on his way. He had not gone very far down the hill when he came to a little girl named \_\_\_\_\_ (fill in the name) singing and picking flowers. "Do you know where I can find a little red house with no doors and no windows and a star inside?" asked the little boy. The little girl laughed, "Ask my father, the farmer," she said. "Perhaps he can help you."

So the little boy went on until he came to the great red barn where the farmer kept barrels of fat potatoes and baskets of yellow squashes and orange pumpkins. The farmer stood in the doorway looking out over his green pastures and yellow grain fields. "Do you know where I can find a little red house with no doors and no windows and a star inside?" asked the little boy. The farmer laughed. "In all my years, I have never seen one. But, you best ask my Granny who lives at the bottom of the hill. She

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knows how to make a lot of things, like candies, popcorn, and delicious pies."

So the little boy went on, until he came to a cottage. Granny was sitting in a rocking chair on the front porch knitting a red scarf. She was as wrinkled as a prune and her smile was as warm as the sunshine. "Pardon me, Granny," said the little boy. "The farmer thought you might know where I can find a little red house with no doors and no windows and a star inside?" Granny laughed and said, "I should like to find that little house myself. It would keep me warm on cold winter nights. Perhaps you should ask the Wind. He sees and hears everything. I'm sure the wind can help you." And Granny began tending her pretty garden of herbs and flowers.

So the little boy went back up the hill looking for the Wind and called, "Wind, I need to talk to you." The Wind was coming down the hill as the little boy climbed up. "Excuse me, Wind," said the little boy. "Do you know where I can find a little red house with no doors and no windows and a star inside?" "Yes, whistled the Wind in the little boy's ear. I know where that house is. Follow me." The Wind pushed the little boy in the direction it wanted him to go until they came to an apple orchard. Then the Wind rushed ahead so it could climb up an apple tree and shake the branches. Apples began falling to the ground. When the little boy caught up, there at his feet lay a great red apple.

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The little boy picked up the apple and looked at it. It was as red as the sunset and the thick brown stem stood up as straight as a chimney, and it looked like a little red house with no doors and no windows. "Is this it?" the little boy asked the Wind. "Yes," called the Wind. "Is there a star inside?" asked the little boy. "Yes," the Wind whispered, "Cut it open from side to side."

The little boy called, "Thank you, Wind." "You're welcome," the Wind whistled back. Then the little boy ran home to give the apple to his mother. He called, "Mother, I found it! I found the little red house with no doors and no windows but we have to look for the star inside."

His mother ran outside to see. Then, she took a knife and cut it crosswise. (At this point, a responsible adult should start cutting an apple in half crosswise through the center).

"Oh, how wonderful!" she exclaimed. "Look \_\_\_\_\_." (say the name of the little boy). "A star! A star!" shouted the little boy excitedly. There inside the apple, lay a star holding 10 brown seeds.



The End.